

THE NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

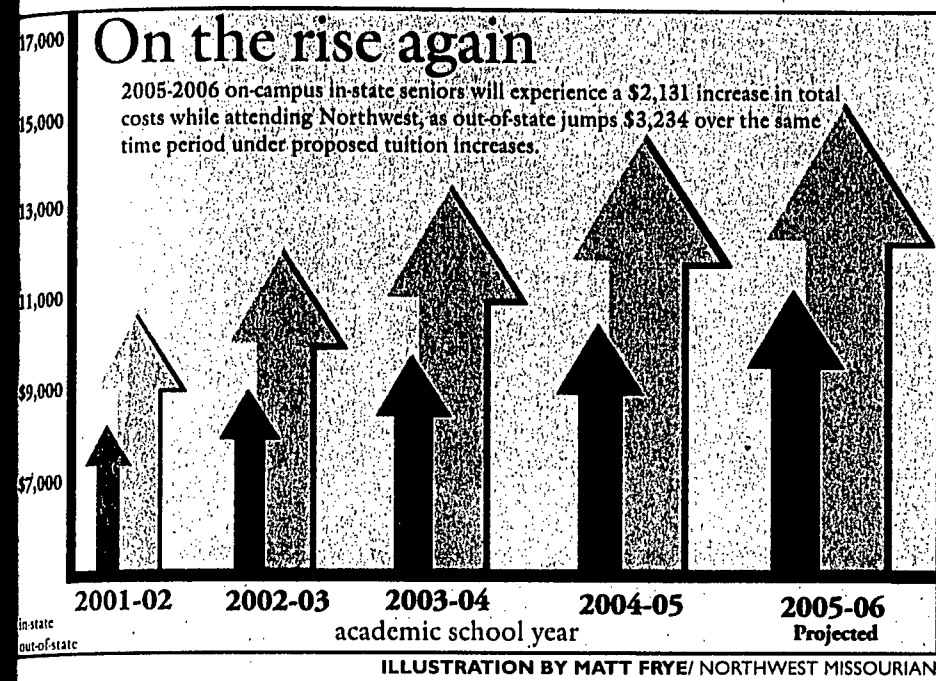
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

MARYVILLE, Mo.

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Students to see hike in tuition

BY ASHLEY BALLY
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

A proposal regarding tuition increases for the Fall 2005-06 trimester will be debated at the Feb. 17 Board of Regents meeting.

The proposal presents a potential increase in response to current tuition, and room and board costs. A 3.9 percent increase is predicted to affect tuition with a higher, 6.3 percent affecting current costs of room and board.

"We had to cut the budget using reserves we had built up over time," said vice president for finance and support services Ray Courter. "Then pass some of the loss back onto students in the form of increased tuition."

For the 2004-05 academic year (fall and

spring trimesters) tuition for an in-state undergraduate is set at \$5,325 and is expected to reach a future cost of \$5,535. For an out of state, undergraduate tuition is currently \$9,180 and is expected to increase to \$9,540. The numbers, based on the fall and spring trimesters, assume the student is enrolled in 15 credit hours per trimester.

In terms of cost per credit hour, costs will be raised by an average of \$10.

Room and board fees for traditional housing, the high rises and North Complex, with a regular Aladine meal plan, currently total \$5,080. With the increase, room and board will reach \$5,402. However, starting in the fall trimester the new laptop initiative will cost students an additional \$90, making room and board a total of \$5,492, for all on-campus residents.

Additional charges will be added for students in non-traditional or modified housing. These include the Tower Suites, Roberta Hall, South Complex and the Forest Village Apts.

Also beginning next year is the newly approved student activity fee with an additional cost of \$35 per trimester.

"Assuming the state's financial condition does not improve an awful lot in the next few years, in terms of appropriated money from the state, we are going to have to consider other program fees in order to keep tuition down," Courter said.

According to Courter, tuition increases are steadily on the rise around the state due to cuts in state appropriations expected to fund higher education.

please see "TUITION" page 5A

City hops on board with Ventria

Residents both excited about possibilities

ANDY TIMKO
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Three words are on the minds of University and state officials as Northwest continues pursuit in bringing biopharming technology to Maryville: students, professors and

the idea of biopharming combines three areas of study, biology, pharmacology and engineering. The companies in this field genetically enhance specific crops to produce proteins later used in pharmaceutical medicines to cure or prevent diseases.

When Northwest first decided to pursue biopharming, negotiations started with a company in Europe. Soon thereafter the University and Missouri teamed up when they heard of Ventria's plan to move across the country and quickly jumped into competition with other states.

We got into a fierce competition with North Carolina, Louisiana, and Georgia and won it," Northwest President Dean Hubbard said. "I'm quite comfortable that this technology and you can't do this stuff without it." Hubbard's ultimate goal is to bring five acres of land to Northwest in an effort to increase the number of fields of biotechnology that are researched and developed.

President and CEO of Ventria, Scott Deeter, believes recent media has placed more emphasis on what is being produced, how it's being produced and what the pitfalls may be instead of the potential good that may come from biotechnology.

Sometimes we forget that there are major issues that we can address with the right technology," Deeter said. "One of the



Members of Ventria's board of directors spent part of the day Wednesday touring the city as well as meeting with members of the community.

products we're working on could potentially help save the lives of 1.3 million children under the age of five every year. It paints a picture for promise."

Saving lives is a high priority for Ventria and Deeter also believes biotechnology will lower pharmaceutical costs and make their products more available to states whose Medicaid and Medicare programs budgets are strapped for revenue.

Cheaper prescription costs will be only one of many benefits centered around Ventria's move to Maryville.

When Ventria Bioscience moves its top 13

please see "BIOPHARMING" page 5A

Ventria bosses make their way around city

BY DENNIS SHARKEY
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

When President and CEO of Ventria Bioscience Scott Deeter gets feedback about Maryville, there is one common theme-hospitality.

"Everyone I talked to says it's amazing how nice people here are," Deeter said.

Deeter and many of the other Ventria employees moving here arrived in Maryville yesterday to get their first glimpse of Maryville.

"People told me that it was really pretty when it snows here, and it is," said Ventria public relations coordinator Brandy Sargent. "We don't see much snow in Sacramento unless you go up into the mountains."

Deeter said that it was a combination of the University and the state of Missouri's support, and the proximity of scholars in the Kansas City area at the Danforth Institute, is what helped Northwest beat out seven other universities around the country. Deeter also said that the quality the University strives for was a major factor.

"It was amazing to find out that Northwest was in the running for the Baldrige Award nationally," Deeter said. "That is really impressive, and it doesn't surprise me with Dr. Hubbard."

Deeter also believes that the values and beliefs of this area really fit a business like Ventria.

"We believe with this technology we will help the growers of Missouri feed the world,

please see "VENTRIA" page 5A

arks fly between school board, council over tax-increment funds

es freeze could last as long as 23 years, as few as 12

DENNIS SHARKEY
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Friday's unanimous decision by the Council to move forward with the Hy-Vee expansion and The Village Shopping Center project, left some school board members and citizens with a bad taste in their mouths.

The approved tax-increment financing put on property taxes on the Hy-Vee property would freeze the taxes at the current level for the life of the deal, which could be up to 23 years, or could be paid off in as few as 12 years.

"I'm disappointed," said Maryville school board member Mark Jelavich. "It was unexpected. It's over and done with and we'll just have to live with the revenue consequences as they are."

The concern of the school board is that approximately 200 permanent jobs cre-

ated by the expansion project brings additional students, without additional ways to pay for them.

Another concern from the school board and members of the community is the lack of time they had to look over the plan and make an informed decision. Some citizens also moved for a change of time to a more convenient evening hour and a bigger venue to accommodate the large crowd that overflowed into the sidewalk.

"I have concerns that I think are justified," school board member Dave Boyles said. "I'm not going to sit here and tell you that this is a horrible proposal. I don't have enough information as a taxpayer, as a school board member or as a merchant to go one way or the other on TIF."

Those in favor of the bond issue believe the information has been out there long enough, and waiting would not be in the best interest of the city.

Former TIF Commission Chairman Jason White said that it makes sense for the future

of the community, and the school district would miss out on a very small percentage of taxes in the near future. He believes that the benefits far outweigh the risks and the district has nothing to gain by stopping the bond. The net gain in property taxes over the last four years is only about \$325 in new taxes, according to White.

"I have no desire to recommend a project that could potentially harm the schools," White said. "A 12 year freeze on a property that appears to be depreciating rather than appreciating, the benefits of this proposal outweigh the risks."

In a written statement, Mayor Pro-tem Ron Moss expressed concern that the school board's opposition to the bond issue could result in "a division in the community and a division may result in opposition to programs offered by the school board by those supporting the revitalization efforts."

Moss also accused the school board of not

please see "COUNCIL" page 5A

Winter Wonderland Part III

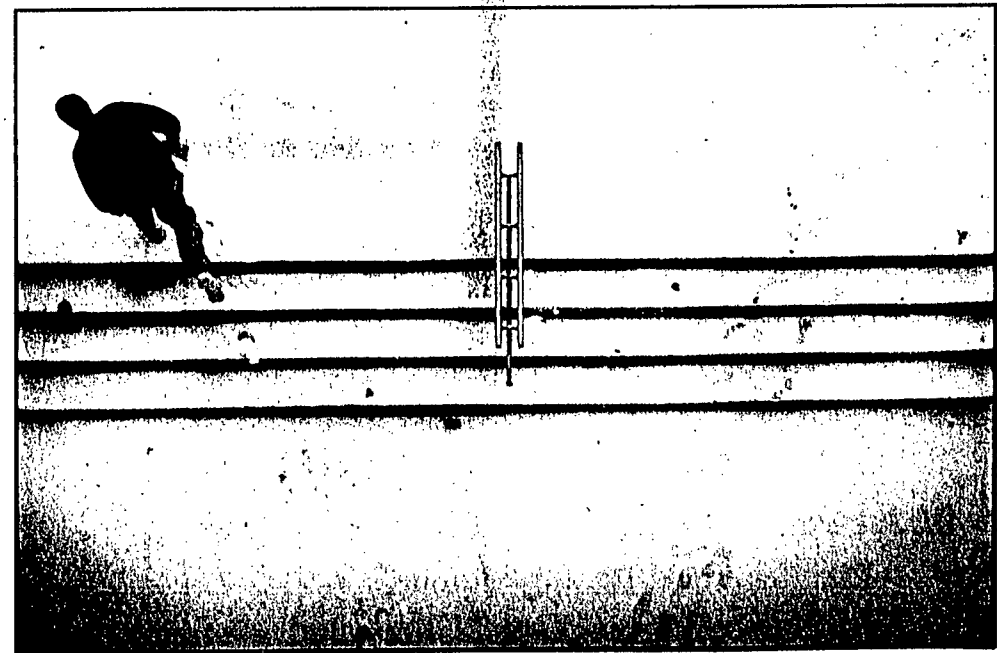


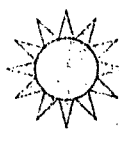
PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/ NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

A student leaves Martindale Hall Tuesday afternoon. A midweek snowfall slowed many students on their way to and from afternoon classes. Weekend temperatures are expected to reach near 50 degrees.

MISSOURIAN
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After a long trip Addae Houston has found a place to call home. See page B1

LOCAL FORECAST



Friday
High: 46
Low: 26



Saturday
High: 46
Low: 34



Sunday
High: 48
Low: 30

Midwest choirs to compete in show choir festival

BY MARISSA EBELING
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Northwest plans to host choirs from 25 area high schools for a show choir festival Saturday.

High schools represented in the festival include choirs from Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas. Schools compete in four different divisions, based on the population of the school.

Students from larger schools such as Oak Park High School in Kansas City, Lindbergh High School and Parkway Central High School from St. Louis and St. Joseph Central perform in Division four ranking. The Maryville High School Choir will compete in the festival as well.

Performances begin at 8:15 a.m. and occur simultaneously on the Charles

Johnson Theatre stage and the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center stage throughout the day. Dr. Brian Lanier, director of the Northwest Show Choir and coordinator of the festival, believes that this opens up a learning opportunity for the performing students.

"It is a competition but we really emphasize the educational aspect of it," Lanier said. "It's a great way to express a culmination of singing and dancing at the same time."

The final competition consisting of eight choirs, two from each class division, will begin at 5 p.m.

Sophomore Kyle Kurtz competed in the competition in 2003.

"It's really nerve-wracking and very exciting at the same time," Kurtz said. "It's one of the biggest competitions in the state."

Legislative reception offers students chance to voice their concerns

BY BRENT CHAPPELOW
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

On March 8, University students, faculty and alumni will rally at the Capitol in Jefferson City, Mo., for a day of discussions with legislators.

The Legislative Reception, sponsored by Student Senate, allows University representatives to travel to the state legislature and provide input concerning issues about Missouri higher education.

Wendy Shoemyer, University Relations legislative assistant, anticipates a good turnout for the event and cited the use of the program.

"We talk to (legislators) about a lot of issues we care about," Shoemyer said. "It's basically just a day to campaign for Northwest."

The University provides free bus transportation to the Capitol and lunch for participants. Approximately 100 people attended the event last year.

Ashley Mersman plans to attend the reception because she believes that participation in government is important.

"People don't realize that even though they're just one person they still have power," Mersman said.

Rats teach importance of a healthy diet

BY BEN KOEHN
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

For many children, the ideal diet might consist of cookies, cake, ice cream and soda pop. But now students at Horace Mann Elementary are going to learn the consequences of what they eat from two unique teachers—rats named Sugar and Salt.

"They are cute," said 5th and 6th grade teacher Linda Heeler of her new teaching assistants. "They're little and they're tiny and they're babies, so (the students) think they're cute."

Heeler has participated in this program for the last 15 years and has taught at Horace Mann for the last 24 years.

"They're funny," fifth grader Holly Walmarth said about the rats. "The first day we got them they—I think it was Salt—tried to get out of his cage, so we had to put a brick on top of it."

The students are participating with the Mid-America Dairy Council, a part of the National Dairy Council, in a program which aims to teach elementary students healthy eating habits by showing them the effects that junk food can have on the body. Rats are used in the program, because of their similarities to humans in how they grow and develop.

Heeler hopes the students learn how the foods they choose can affect their bodies. The students will feed Sugar a diet of foods high in fats, carbohydrates and oils and Salt a diet of foods such as fruits, vegetables and dairy products recommended by the National Dairy Council. Then over the course of the next five to six weeks, the students will measure the weight, length and bone mass of the rats to see which rat is the healthiest.

"If you don't eat right you're gonna



Horace Mann student, Holly Wilmes and other fifth and sixth grade students record data about their current in-class experiment. Mrs. Heeler's class is experimenting by feeding one rat a nutritious diet, while the other receives junk food while recording data throughout the process.

get fat and obese; and nobody likes that," sixth grader Ashley Weybrow said.

Heeler hopes that the students will also learn more about the scientific method of inquiry by experimenting with the rats. She hopes that by creating a hypothesis, setting variables and learning to take correct measurements, the students

shall develop a greater ability to think critically and be able to create an educated hypothesis on their own.

The school has also started a program to get the students themselves to eat healthier by awarding points to students who eat their fruits and vegetables at lunch. These points accumulate until the end of the month and then stu-

dents may redeem them for extra recesses or another extra activity.

After three weeks, Sugar will begin a new diet of healthier foods and students will study any improvements in the health of the rat. At the conclusion of the experiment, Sugar Salt will most likely be adopted by students.

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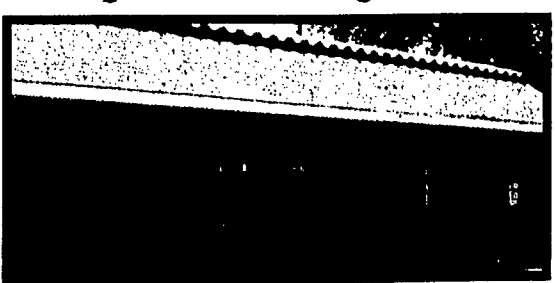
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOLAINE ZWEIFEL

Members of the St. Gregory's Parish visit with a group of children at the Copprome Orphanage during a mission trip to El Progreso, Honduras. The group delivered medical and school supplies and visited orphanages and churches throughout the area. Parish members who participated in the mission trip include Mike and Theresa Wilson, Janice Falcone and their son, Christian, Brian Donnelly, Steve Barmann and Tom and Jolaine Zweifel and children, Jenny and Nic.

Parish members deliver medical and school supplies to Honduran natives

DALLAS READ
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Over 1,800 miles south of the Missouri winter, 12 members of St. Gregory's Parish traveled on a mission trip to El Progreso, Honduras, for an experience they never forget.

Well, we managed to get there during one of their coldest weeks of the year," Northwest Computer Analyst Jolaine Zweifel said. "We arrived the Sunday after Christmas and it was cold and through Thursday. None of us had packed enough warm clothes (because) we thought it would be much warmer."

The weather didn't stop the adults and four teenagers of St. Gregory's Parish from achieving their goal in Central America.

"I wanted to briefly live with people (and) provide some service, help or support to another culture," Zweifel said. "We also wanted to help for understanding the social and economic conditions in which many Central Americans live."

Along with bringing 12 large boxes full of medical and school supplies, toys, shoes, books and clothing, the group visited orphanages and a malnutrition center that take care of the local children.

"A nice thing about the children is they didn't really want anything from us except for time," Zweifel Accounting Professor



Janice Falcone shares a moment with a child at the Copprome orphanage during the St. Gregory's Parish mission trip to Honduras.

Mike Wilson said. "They just wanted to be played with, talked to and they didn't have any agendas, they just wanted somebody to interact with."

One unforgettable moment came to the parish while at a local church, when everyone gathered for a "sign of peace," where members from both churches shook hands.

"They were just (so) open and gracious," Zweifel said. "Their sign of peace lasts 10 to 15 minutes where people from all over the church greet others. It was probably the most uplifting part about it. We get through (the sign of

peace) rather quickly at our parish."

In addition to their mission duties, members also participated in the Honduras New Year celebration equipped with fireworks and dancing.

"We bought fireworks for next to nothing," Brian Donnelly, 18, said. "I really like to see a different part of the world, a different way of life and just get that kind of experience. I think it was really worth it; I'd go back anytime."

Even after the group saw muddy roads, plantations and nice homes surrounded by barbed wire fences, one characteristic made the parish feel like they were back in Maryville.

"One orphanage that we went to had a lot of teenagers," Zweifel said. "They basically are just like teenagers here. They love to play sports, and the girls actually got together and did a small performance to the latest pop songs."

"They were a 100 percent teenagers that were excited about life and exploring life," she said. "It was so good to see them. They're just like us in so many ways."

Dallas Read can be contacted at 562-1224 or s233775@mail.nwmissouri.edu.

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FOR MORE NEWS

Task force develops plan for walking trail

BY KELSEY GARRISON
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

City Council members, along with a group of local citizens, recently initiated a task force to bring a walking, running and biking trail to Maryville.

The task force, led by councilmen John Jasinski and Chad Jackson, held a meeting to determine the prospects for the trail.

According to Jasinski, the trail will loop around the city instead of being confined in a central-park area, potentially beginning at Donaldson West Side Park on Country Club

Road and ending around Beal Park on Laura Street.

The goal is to connect the city together. There will also be a path on the perimeter of Maryville with inner connecting loops on Main Street.

Jasinski believes that the trail will improve the city's infrastructure.

"The significance of the trail is it coincides with the city's plan to improve infrastructure," Jasinski said.

The group also plans to place a strong emphasis on safety and therefore enabling the trail to be fitness and family-friendly.

Safety signs will be placed along the trail to warn pedestrians and drivers to

reduce the city's liability for injuries.

Funding for the trail will come from the city budget, as well as donations from private sources.

City Manager Matt Chesnut believes that the city needs a safe and efficient sidewalk system.

"(The city has) no quality sidewalk system and need to figure out another safe way to meet those needs. We want to create something that can be used by everyone and can go from point A to point B," Chesnut said.

The task force doesn't have a specific date for construction to begin, but they hope to start some time this summer.

Science and art collide at Artisan gallery exhibit

BY SEAN COMER
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Close-ups of various species of birds fill the walls. Spaces not filled by photos of terns, swans or sea-faring ducks contain detailed extreme close-ups of mineral crystals. And at the center of the room sits a sculpture of various sorts of atoms dedicated to the late scientist Francis Crick.

A touring National Geographic exhibit didn't make an unscheduled pit-stop in Maryville. But an artistically inclined member of Northwest's faculty displayed their work at the Artisan gallery's "Art meets Science" exhibit on Feb. 4-7.

The all-faculty exhibit showcased mergers of such mediums as photography, sketching and paints with scientific disciplines including biology, geology and chemistry. One of the contributing artists originally inspired Artisan proprietor Fred Rohs to put on the show: his wife, Northwest Assistant Geology Professor Renee Rohs.

"She got to thinking about her work and some of the images she creates using her microscope and thought they were neat ideas," Rohs said. "The idea grew from there that there were people in science that have work that, while it's science related, also has an aesthetic side to it. From there it went also to art that might have a scientific side to it as well."

Rohs' crystal photographs, taken with a digital camera attached to a microscope she uses to examine thin strips of min-



PHOTO BY ADAM WATSON / NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Russ Schmaljohm (left) and Fred Rohs (right) discuss an abstract statue created by a Northwest faculty member. The Artisan Gallery will continue showing the "Northwest faculty Art and Science" exhibit through the month of February.

eral crystals, depicts a kind of found-art that Rohs has appreciated for some time.

"I've been looking at these things for years and years and years, and thinking they're beautiful, we should be able to share them with other people," Rohs said.

Art professor Kim Spradling contributed a paper-relief sculpture representing molecular structures. Previously displayed at Cortey College in Nevada, Mo., Spradling constructed his work from a combination of percussion stands from the music department for support, toy balls to represent the atoms themselves and a combination of paper and molding

to create the relief of the surface of each "atom."

An art major with a minor in biology, Spradling made a unique dedication for his piece.

Rohs says that a strong response to the exhibit will motivate him to possibly make it an annual event.

"A lot of people in the science department expressed that they would've liked to have been in here, but they didn't quite have time to get their stuff ready and would like to have this in the future," Rohs said. "The University has been my biggest supporter."

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Our View

Finance fiasco

Members of the community are quick to point the finger of blame regarding tax increment financing

A big-name developer with big-city-like renovation plans was greeted by small-city-like antics during last Friday's city council meeting.

While the Maryville City Council got its way in approving a tax-increment financing district to expand The Village shopping center, its swift action burned bridges that didn't need to be lit.

The Maryville R-II School Board became the victim in a council-driven raid that will freeze property and sales taxes at the current levels for as long as 23 years. At best, the council says the cap will be removed in 12 years.

The result of this swift and unjustified action: a divided community. The sad part of all this is it could have been avoided.

The roller coaster began on Feb. 3, when the school board drafted a letter to the editor that appeared in *The Northwest Missourian*. The board members rightly stated that the operating expenses of the district will "continue to rise, as inflationary pressures eat at the district's budget." This aspect alone should have made the council rethink its plan.

The Maryville school district will now have to search for new ways to compensate the future monies lost by the tax freeze. It can't look towards the state's education-funding formula because it is considered a "hold harmless" district. This means the district will actually receive less state aid than it did prior to the 1993 Outstanding Schools Act, according to the school board.

Oblivious to these problems, the city council surged on to Friday's special meeting with blinders on. Paying

sole attention to developer Dr. Christie's plea for immediate approval of the TIF district, council members didn't give the school board the day of day.

In fact, Mayor Pro-tem Ron Moss fired baseless claims at the school board by saying its opposition to the TIF district could result in a "division" in the community and a division in the community and a division in the community.

Moss is correct in saying a division has occurred, but the blame for it should be put squarely on him and the city council.

School board members were given the opportunity to debate Moss' statement and were denied the opportunity to move the debate to a different venue and time.

Underneath this unnecessary flap caused by the city council is the fact that economic development is crucial for the University and the community to thrive. However, costs must be measured against benefits, and in this case, the cost is steep.

How can a University work with a city council when the city council can't even work with other public entities?

The bright spot out of this mess is that the school board is moving like consummate professionals. At the city council, that remains to be seen. But if the Maryville school district is in need of money that can have been obtained from property taxes in the future, the action taken by the city council members last day could come back to haunt them.

Decreasing federal education allotment not wise

My View



Stephanie Stangl
Managing Editor

When the presidential election results rang woefully through my ears that bleak Wednesday afternoon, I must admit I wept for quite some time.

When "President" George W. Bush sent his proposed \$2.57 trillion budget to Congress, which allotted more government funds to fortify Operation Iraqi Freedom and Homeland Security while lessening the funds allotted to aspects such as education, I wished to

cry even harder.

So, I took it upon myself to take a little gander at the details of the budget online. At first glance, it states that education is only taking a 1 percent decrease, which doesn't appear to be significant if you don't take the extra step of putting it into context.

I proceeded to crunch the numbers and became increasingly infuriated with each poke upon the calculator.

A percent decrease in education actually means a \$560 million blow to students and teachers around the nation. After staring in shock at the numbers, my mind immediately wandered from shock to worry for education as we know it.

I know what "No Child Left Behind" has done for my former high school. I've watched in nauseous awe as one of my former English teachers and favorite people in the world explained through reddened eyes, that this horrific program, intended to not let any child slip through the cracks, adversely hurts the youth of America.

According to the Department of Education section of the proposed budget,

"When Bush launched his 'No Child Left Behind' initiative, he said, 'The Federal role in education is not to serve the system. It is to serve the children.'"

Serve the children? Forcing special needs and minority children to reach the same goals as everyone else? Making it seem intolerable and threaten to cut off federal funds when they don't? "No Child Left Behind" is actually a contradictory piece of legislation achieving nothing but tormenting children.

Putting that aside, Bush also wants to increase the money allotted for Pell Grants. When I, being a college student, initially read this, I almost wanted to cheer for Bush for the first time during his presidency. But then I started to think, if my former high school didn't even have enough money to provide Kleenex that didn't tear a hole through your nose, and now he is dwindling the funds for education even more, where is this magical money going to come from?

But I guess I am a little biased. I have hated Bush from the day he sent every husband, brother, uncle, cousin

or friend over to fight because he thought Saddam Hussein might possess Weapons of Mass Destruction. Now that those weapons haven't surfaced and he keeps investing more money to keep troops in a country when they should have been allowed to come home months ago, not only infuriates me but saddens me in the same instant. Stealing money from government programs that remain in dire need, and feeding it into a system that should no longer need funds, is absolutely absurd.

So my hat goes off to you, Bush. Congratulations. You've not only passed legislation that solicits unattainable goals, but you've also decreased funding further so more disadvantaged and minority children can venture home after standardized tests and cry themselves to sleep. They can lie their heads on soppy pillows because they failed to land in the "right" percentile and are now attending a charter school. And worst of all, you wouldn't even give their school the money so they could have the resources to succeed.

I'd just like to say, "You're a good man, Mr. Bush."

Liberals don't have market cornered on stupidity

My View



Aaron Bailey
Senior Reporter

One of quickest ways to make yourself sound like a moron is to compare the victims of the 9/11 tragedy to the Nazis that tried to extinguish an entire race of people.

But no one would be dumb enough to make that comparison, right? I mean, who in their right mind could even think that, let alone put it on paper for others to read? Well, say hello to University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill.

In one of the biggest examples of why liberals get a bad name since Jane

Fonda's anti-war arguments during the Vietnam War, Churchill wrote in a published essay that "for those in the World Trade Center well, really, let's get a grip here, shall we? True enough, they were civilians of a sort. But innocent? Gimme a break."

The whole gist of this idiot's claim is that the 9/11 terrorists were simply fighting back against the supposed campaign of Iraqi genocide the U.S. mounted with the bombings following the first Gulf War and the trade sanctions implemented following the conflict.

But if that wasn't enough, Churchill then called the 9/11 victims "little Eichmanns" in reference to Adolf Eichmann, one of Hitler's architects of the Holocaust.

Now, as a liberal—and as a human being—I find these statements to be truly sickening. Who wouldn't? Well, how about a crowd of about 1,200 CU students who gave Churchill a standing ovation after saying "I owe no apology."

Before going any further, I want to stress how important the freedom of speech is in America. It is absolutely

crucial to the success of our own democracy that this idiot be allowed to say this. Scholars from around the country have raised concern that if Churchill is fired for these remarks, it could very well threaten academic freedoms as well as the integrity of the First Amendment itself.

But jeez, Ward—Nazis? With this supposedly liberal American media, why is it that if some clown makes these abominable, ridiculous comments, it gets play on every show from Fox News' "O'Reilly Factor" to MSNBC's "Scarborough Country," not to mention play on CNN's Headline News and just about every newspaper in America.

But if Ann Coulter makes a comment like, oh I don't know, defending McCarthyism, she's invited on every news network and given credibility as a mouthpiece for conservatives.

In her book "Treason: Liberal Treachery from The Cold War to The War on Terrorism" Coulter writes: "The portrayal of Sen. Joe McCarthy as a wide-eyed demagogue destroying innocent lives is sheer liberal

hobgoblinism. (Liberals) were systematically undermining the nation's ability to defend itself, while waging a bellicose campaign of lies to blacken McCarthy's name."

Let's break this down. McCarthy was just misunderstood for perpetuating one of the darkest times in American history by incriminating innocent citizens to further his own political aspirations; ruining the lives of countless people in an attempt to root out those "Commie bastards."

But instead of being labeled a nutjob, Coulter is touted by conservatives and the "liberal media" as a voice of reason for conservatives.

Both liberals and conservatives have their share of morons.

Churchill's opinions are not the views of the majority of liberals, just as I hope Coulter doesn't represent the outlook of the majority of conservatives.

But holy cow Ward, the next time you feel like expressing your opinion, do everyone a favor and don't. If only Coulter would go away, like this story will, in a couple of weeks.

Your View

What was your favorite Super Bowl commerical?



"I like the Ameriquest one when he was on the phone and he said, 'You're being robbed,' and the clerk thought he was being robbed."

JILL REILEY
MARKETING/MANAGEMENT



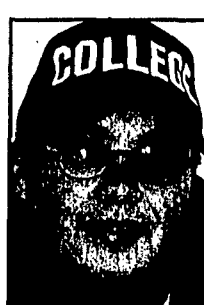
"I liked the FedEx one. Anytime you can get Burt Reynolds, it's a good thing."

SEAN BERGER
IDM: COMPUTER SCIENCE



"I didn't watch the Super Bowl. I slept through it."

AMY FALCONER
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VENTRIA: Staff take a visit to community, check out local schools

FROM IA

also help save lives," Deeter

Deeter believes that moving Ventria to Missouri will bring changes and some differences, and many adjustments have to be made from a management standpoint.

In Missouri were going to be growing rice, which is different from growing rice, which we've done in the past. It will take some time for us to adjust.

He also said that the soil conditions and growing procedures

are different and that is something that will also take time to acclimate to.

Deeter said that so far the response from local growers has been a positive one, and that there is a high interest in the grower community. He also believes that a strong relationship with the local growers is very important.

"I think they see it as a great opportunity to add value to their farms, and we see that also," Deeter said. "Obviously Ventria will be needing a relationship with several growers, and we need to start building those relationships and the connections."

BIOPHARMING: Hubbard optimistic for upcoming possibilities

FROM IA

Scientists to Maryville in early November, Northwest will be able to make the choices for students including bachelor's and master's degrees, possibly a cooperative doctoral degree in biotechnology.

According to Hubbard, students of faculty at Northwest will play an integral role in the research and production of the pharmaceutical drugs. "It will be a mechanism that will strengthen the science offerings available to students," Hubbard said. "It's a whole career field for students who would be interested in that."

While increasing opportunities in science majors, the biopharming technology will also create a ripple effect that could spread throughout the sciences while also giving business majors the chance to work with the company.

"We're dealing with real-life businesses, it's not textbook stuff," Hubbard said. "They've already contacted me with a list of people that they want to hire. There are clearly benefits."

An added benefit for the University is that Northwest now owns part of Ventria.

"If Ventria succeeds big time, then our students could see substantial money coming to the University," Hubbard said. "When I say substantial, I'm talking millions of dollars, and any time we can get revenue from another source that helps us hold down tuition rates."

Yet another advantage for Northwest students will be that some of the scientists coming to Maryville will also be teaching courses at Northwest.

Farmers around Maryville will also take part in the innovative technology, as they will help grow the pharmaceutical crops.

TUITION: Increases again

CONTINUED from IA

During the 2001-02 academic year, higher education in Missouri was severely affected by appropriations cuts of around \$284 million. Northwest was set to receive \$32.2 million from state appropriations that year, only to receive a cut of \$4.6 million. To date, that total from appropriations has yet to be reached.

In response to the rising cost of higher education Northwest is expected to put forth a 4.2 percent increase in University scholarships. During the previous fall semester the institution began awarding the American Dream Grant. The grant reduces first and second-year students' cost to \$1,500 per semester.

"From the cuts in 2001-02, we still have not recovered," Courter said. "Which is partly why tuition has gone up," Courter said. "So we're making an earnest attempt at respecting everyone's situation when it comes to

affording college."

Costs for tuition, room and board increased since 2001-02 from \$8,072 for in-state undergraduates and from \$10,539 for out-state undergraduates. Also, the cost per credit hour has increased from \$125 for in-state undergraduates and \$207.25 for out-state undergraduates.

In 1985 state appropriations covered 70.3 percent of University costs leaving the University to produce 28.3 percent of funds from tuition and fees. In 2004 state appropriations only covered 45.2 percent, forcing the University to raise tuition to cover the 45.3 percent in remaining costs.

"People cry out that we're raising tuition to fast and think that we are charging too much but the state has been withdrawing support," Courter said. "It's a pretty tough situation to be in anymore, because people aren't willing to pay income taxes. People want public services but they don't want to pay for them."

maceutical crops.

"The farmers have beaten our door down," Hubbard said. "We set up a meeting with some of the scientists; we wanted about 20 people there and 55 signed up and we're trying to hold them off. We have calls come into my office almost daily."

According to Hubbard the city of Maryville and its citizens will benefit from both the economy and diversity that Ventria Bioscience will bring.

"These are high paying jobs so these people buy expensive homes, expensive cars, they shop. The property taxes will go to the school district, the sales taxes will go to the city," Hubbard said. "Bringing in scientists from all over the world will make Maryville a very interesting town for its size, unlike any other town."

While recent newspaper articles reported the latest concerns about

the hazards of biopharming, Hubbard and Ventria's boards of directors believe the issues have been resolved.

One of the main worries, cross-pollination was resolved because the crops being grown (wheat, barley and rice) self-pollinate, meaning that the plants do not need insects, birds or the wind to help the plant produce the grain that will be harvested.

"With the cross-pollination issue, the fact is that you could do harm with that. The other fact is that it's never happened," Hubbard said.

Despite any concerns that continue to be raised, Hubbard says Ventria's move remains in progress. This spring Ventria will grow crops in eastern Missouri and in the next couple years the company will begin growing crops in Nodaway County.

COUNCIL: Pending tax increment financing worries school board

CONTINUED from IA

thinking ahead and that "the perception is that the school board seems to focus only on their immediate needs and seems to lack vision that an investment now may produce greater dividends in the future."

David Christy, developer of the project, said that the bonds would be sold to outside investors and that the city would have no burden placed on it if the project were to fail. If the T.I.F. revenue doesn't generate enough the bond holders are the ones to take the hit. He also said that the project could not be done without help from the T.I.F.

Belton, Mo. has worked with Christy and T.I.F. Belton City Administrator Ron Trivitt said that its school board expressed concerns at first but were able to weigh the costs and benefits if the development had not occurred.

"It's been an excellent experience for us," Trivitt said. "We have never had any problems with Christy following through with what he has committed to doing, and they seem to get the job done."

Christy and other supporters of the project believe that it is vital to the community keeping dollars in Maryville. They also think a new expansion project already in the works on the north side of St. Joseph only makes the concerns grow larger, and lack of resources helps push people who work in Maryville away from living here.

Northwest President Dean Hubbard said that it's an issue the University is already dealing with, in bringing Ventria to town. Company officials want to know about the quality of life, about schools, recreational opportunities and cultural opportunities, Hubbard said. Officials from Ventria said that commuting 45 minutes from St. Joseph is not a big deal for their scientists, according to Hubbard.

The project, in addition to bringing a new 51,000 square foot Hy-Vee, would also bring in a new Dollar General store. The group also has a letter of intent from an undisclosed business not currently in the area.

The Christy group also expressed interest in acquiring the old Wal-Mart building for revitalization as well.

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BY KRISTINE HOTOP
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Valentine's Day bring two types of people: ones that are ecstatic for the day, or ones that want to punch the ecstatic people in the face (for the most part).

Whether you land on one side of the spectrum or are at an apathetic standstill in the middle, Cupid's day is creeping up slowly and you'll have to face its wrath sometime.

I had the opportunity to interview Alison James, author of "I Used To Miss Him... But My Aim Is Improving" (Adams, April 2004). Her sassy wit and unique relationship perspective is enough to keep any single sane for the day, as well as push the attached to strive for what they want, instead of what they might have.

Q: "When someone approaches you and asks about what they should do concerning Valentine's Day, what advice do you offer?"

A: "Since Valentine's Day is coming up shortly, I've been getting lots of calls talking about the issue. Basically, I've been telling everyone that they can't stop the day from coming, as much as we might want to. What we all need to do is have fun, do what works; come on, it's a Monday, and we can all sleep through it and not miss it."

Q: "As the day gets closer and closer, what's the hardest thing to deal with?"

A: "Days like this always bring so much pressure to everyone. Pressure to stay together, to find someone to spend it with, but we always are looking, or at least thinking about that sort of thing and never what we want on these days."

"Don't think your life isn't great because you don't have a 'special someone' to celebrate with. If you are looking around thinking about how happy everyone is because they are in love, turn it around and be happy because you don't have to worry about being in love and celebrate."

Q: "It seems that everyone is talking about what to get so-and-so for Valentine's Day because they love them so much and it has to be perfect. What would you tell them?"

A: "I talk to so many students who say that when they walk around campus everyone around them is madly in love—not true. In your early twenties, most of the population is single. It's not until your thirties where you start looking for someone that is doing the same thing you are with their life. There are so many things to do before one person is going to come into your life."

"We change so much through out our lives. What you might be wanting now from a relationship, can be completely different five years from now. That one

guy that sits behind you in class might be pretty good looking now—wait until after you graduate and see how good he looks then. He's probably balding, overweight and can't hold a steady job. You'll be glad you didn't waste your time on him."

Q: "As a single girl, what tips would you offer in planning a Valentine's night out?"

A: "Plan only in terms in having fun. For what to do that night: Grab all of your girls and head out to a Mexican restaurant, for some reason Mexican food isn't romantic enough for couples. Tell all of your girls to bring a picture of their ex, paste it on a piata and beat the hell out of it, literally. It can be very therapeutic."

Q: "What's your biggest complaint about the day?"

"Hearing guys complain: 'Why do we always have to go out and do things for Valentine's Day?'"

A: My answer: "Girls are doing everything for guys all year long. All the pressure that is put on us to keep the relationship together, our lives, school, work, social plans; all need to be worked around the

dating situation.

"In my mind, Valentine's Day was created by a woman to force guys to perform and show affection. It's only one day, show how they really feel and it's up to them to make it memorable. Guys tend to forget how much we do for them."

Q: "Are you against holidays like Valentine's Day, or just indifferent about it?"

A: "No, not at all! Holidays are a good change of routine, to shake things up to remember them. Go out and do something to make the day memorable. Don't make a big deal out of plans, do something sporadic. Sometimes think that we put on too much pressure, all we really need to do is lower our expectations. It's just another day, make it different make it last."

Q: "Have you always been so self-assured and carefree when it comes to Valentine's Day?"

A: "I am engaged to my boyfriend of three years and I am very stressed for Valentine's Day. I don't know if he's going to do something, I need to throw some hints or reminders there. 'Hey, what's that day on Monday? Maybe I'll leave notes around the house'."

A darker shade of pink

My View



Kylie McDonough
Chief Reporter

Yay! The most fun, exciting, spectacular, riveting, greatest holiday of the year is finally approaching us again. I don't know if you caught the sarcasm in that, but it was definitely there.

Personally Valentine's Day is the one holiday throughout the year that I hate the most. It's just an excuse for those who have significant others to throw it into the faces of those who don't. There is nothing about this holiday that I like.

Valentine's Day should also be known as a competition to those who are in relationships. Some people say, "Oh, no I don't want anything," but really they mean, "get me something, and it better be good!" Those are the people who are never satisfied with what they receive. Then there are those who compete about what to get each

other. Couples do whatever they can to outdo their boyfriend or girlfriends' gifts, whether it be the amount of money spent, the amount of time spent or how supposedly deep from the heart it came. And then, while the girls are working their butts off, taking their time and spending their money on gifts for their boyfriends, the guys wait until the night before, or even the day of, to get their girlfriend something special.

I hate it when people come up to me and ask me what they should get their boyfriend or girlfriend.

I am most frequently approached with this question, "Hmm, should I get him/her chocolate, flowers, balloons or jewelry?"

I, in turn, respond, "I don't really care what you get him/her. Why are you asking me, I don't have a boyfriend, how

should I know?"

But here's my opinion on the gifts most people give during this holiday: Flowers are unoriginal, chocolate make us fat and jewelry is just too expensive for college students.

It was so much easier back in elementary school. Those were the days when everyone was required to make cards so that everyone would get one, no matter what. The teachers would have a regular lesson plan for half the day, and the rest of the day would be spent making little boxes or envelopes to hold the valentine cards.

Then came junior high and high school when all the pressure started appearing. Every normal school day would end with announcements starting at 3:20 and be over in time for school to let out at 3:25. On Valentine's Day, that wasn't the case at all. Announcements would start being read at 3:05, and the remaining 20 minutes would be spent reading off the names of students, in alphabetical order starting with seventh grade and working up by class to the seniors, who needed to pick up balloons and/or flower arrangements. Granted, every year starting in the seventh grade my name was read, but it was never from a boyfriend or anyone "special" in my life—it would always be from my mother. "Yes," it was sweet and nice of her, but while I was there picking up something from my mom, most of my friends and everyone else picked up something from their boyfriends and girlfriends. It was horrible and I hated it, but I know that my mom meant best.

As a college student I shouldn't have to worry about what my boyfriend is planning. There are other, much more important things I need to worry about right now, like Theories of Mass Communication tests for example.

So the next time you approach me about what you should get that "very special" person in your life for Valentine's Day, think twice before asking me. Oh, and have a wonderful Valentine's Day!

Maryville sets plans for day of love

BY KRISTINE HOTOP
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

As the day devoted to love arrives, couples begin to panic for the perfect gift and plans for the night, as singles begin to plan a day of solitude to avoid the couples.

As a popular gift, Maryville Florists will be kept extremely busy delivering flowers to schools, homes and businesses. During this time, Maryville Florists notice flower sales that triple normal sales, the most popular order being a dozen red roses. The florist also advertises flower baskets and bouquets, along with Russell Stovers chocolates, balloons and stuffed animals that can be added.

Locally, plenty can be found to accompany your Valentine's Day plans, to avoid a drive to St. Joseph or Kansas City. The Hangar has its usual dinner and a movie, sold as a package associated with a romantic comedy for the evening.

"Every year the dinner and a movie is very popular. This year, we are planning on showing 'Hitch' as the dinner/movies special," general manager Richard Groves said. "A lot of people show up for din-

ner and the night is pretty much sold out early."

For residents uninterested in a movie experience or in search of a nice dinner out, meal specials are available all around town to make the night fabulous.

According to A&G's Restaurant co-owner Sue Groumouts, the night is a big night in the business and the restaurant pulls in a lot of people throughout the Valentine's Day weekend, and even more that evening. The restaurant offers dinner specials to fit anyone's nightly budget.

Valentine's Day is a day to reminisce on old friends and family loves, and not just a "couple's holiday." For some, loved ones may not be around to celebrate. Bristol Manor, an assisting living home, spends Valentine's Day with residents and staff.

"We will serve cookies and punch for everyone to celebrate," LPN and temporary manager Joyce French said. "We only have 12 people living here, so we celebrate these things closely, with a family atmosphere."

Nodaway Nursing Home carries out a party of their own, complete with a Valentine's Day king and queen. The residents recognize royalty complete with a cape and crown.

"We have a party every year with food, music and punch, and we also crown a king and queen for the night. We have one couple at the home, Irene and John, who will be this year's royalty," activities director Cathy Driskell said. "It's something the residents look forward to every year, and something we like to do for them."

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hollaback girl, Ry

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they say about redheads is true.
TIMMY

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Women hold off surge, come away with victory

JEROME BOETTCHER
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The Northwest women's basketball team surmounted a huge scare Wednesday night, as they came away with a 62-59 victory at Truman State. The Bearcats blew a 17-point first half lead before being able to come away with the win, thanks in large part to the play of junior guard Addae Houston.

Truman State picked up an offensive rebound with less than 10 seconds left and was able to pluck a pass out of the air that ended the hopes of a Truman rally. She was immediately fouled with seven seconds left, the 67 percent free-throw shooter knocked down two free throws to put the team up by three. Houston ended the game with 12 points. Junior Meghan Brue and senior Ashley Poptanycz also had 12 points. Poptanycz grabbed nine rebounds.

Northwest led 37-26 at halftime but the lead was cut to six points, thanks to a run that started late in the first half. Truman fought all the way back to take the lead 51-44 left, 53-51. Truman would take the game more but Northwest would prevail. The win puts the team at 12-12 overall and 5-6 in the MIAA. The Bearcats swept the Bulldogs in the regular season series and enjoys their



62



59

third win in four games. They currently hold down the seventh spot in the MIAA standings.

They now head to Pittsburg, Kan. Saturday to face Pittsburg State at 1:30 p.m. The game will be a rematch for the teams. The Gorillas won the first matchup on a game-winning jumper by Kami Scrivner with 5.2 seconds left, to win 54-52 at Bearcat Arena.

"I'd like to beat everyone, but if I could get revenge on Emporia or on Pitt, it would be Pitt," junior Laura Friederich said.

Friederich was named the MIAA Player of the Week Tuesday afternoon after her performances last week against Central Missouri State and Emporia State. She averaged 24 points, 5.5 rebounds, 6.5 assists and 4.0 steals during that stretch. She also had a career-high 25 points against Emporia State Saturday.

If Northwest wins Saturday, they could find themselves tied for the sixth spot in the conference. Every win counts at this point as there are only five games left before the MIAA Tournament in March.

"I think six wins will get us in," Northwest head coach Gene Steinmeyer said. "But come next Tuesday, if we have six wins next Tuesday, I'm not going to sit on a chair and say 'We're in.' I'm still going to tell you we have to beat Southern and we have to beat Rolla."

Strong finish propels Bearcats to road win

BRENDAN KELLY
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The Bearcats made the three-hour bus ride to Truman State Wednesday night. When they arrived in Kirksville they exchanged a fight.

The last time these two teams met, the Bearcats got away with a three-point win in Maryville Wednesday night was a different story. The 'Cats used a strong second half to run away with the victory over Truman State, 65-54. The win moved the Bearcats to 17-7 and 7-6 in MIAA play. Truman State presented a threat to Northwest, after coming off a big win on Saturday.

Truman has always been a tough opponent for us," coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "We were coming off a big win over Missouri State 72-54."

The first half moved slowly with both teams trading for just 22 points in the first 10 minutes of the half.

Truman State led by as much as five in the second half and held the lead going into the half.



65



54

24-27.

The 'Cats used a 10-0 run to break a 36-36 tie with 15 minutes left in the second half. Truman State would come within six, but never regain the lead.

Austin Meyer knocked in 19 second-half points and ended the night with 22, to lead all scorers.

The win would be the 'Cats first double digit win since Jan. 3 when they earned a 81-55 victory over Missouri State in Rolla.

The 'Cats also got guard Sky Wilson back into the lineup. Wednesday night, Wilson added six points to the Bearcat attack while wearing a brace on each leg.

Bearcat coaches breathed a sigh of relief with Wilson entering back into the lineup. The 'Cats were getting thin depth-wise with Matt Withers going down with an inside ankle sprain on Saturday against Emporia State and Andy Peterson sitting out for the rest of the season with an ACL injury.

Saturday, the 'Cats will cap off their road trip at Pittsburg State who sits 17-4 overall and 8-4 in MIAA play as of Wednesday night.

Turn in strong performances

ANDY NELSON
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The women's track and field squad competed in the Panther Classic at the University of Northern Iowa last Saturday.

The Bearcats continued to build on the success they had this season, although several athletes played key parts.

Coach Scott Lorek was particularly impressed by the performance of sophomore Kailea Cook.

"Kailea really came through in the 200 meters, which doesn't make much sense," Lorek said. "It's a tougher event for her especially when she's been sick."

Cook's performance in the 200 meters was her more than the 11th place finish. Her time of 26.09 was 1/10 of a second faster than her provisional qualifying for the

NCAA Championships.

Along with Cook, other Bearcats shined in the spotlight.

"I think Kailea Cook and Alisha Samuel are probably tied for our best weekend," Lorek said.

Samuel, a junior, set a personal record with a 60 meter dash in 7.67 seconds.

"Alisha Samuel took first in the 60 meters and that was very, very good," Lorek said.

The ladies' performances are even more impressive when considering they were competing against Division I athletes.

"It's exciting, really intimidating though," freshman Halley Carlson said.

According to Carlson, the jump between divisions is noticed in the finer nuances of competition.

please see 'RUNNERS' page 2B

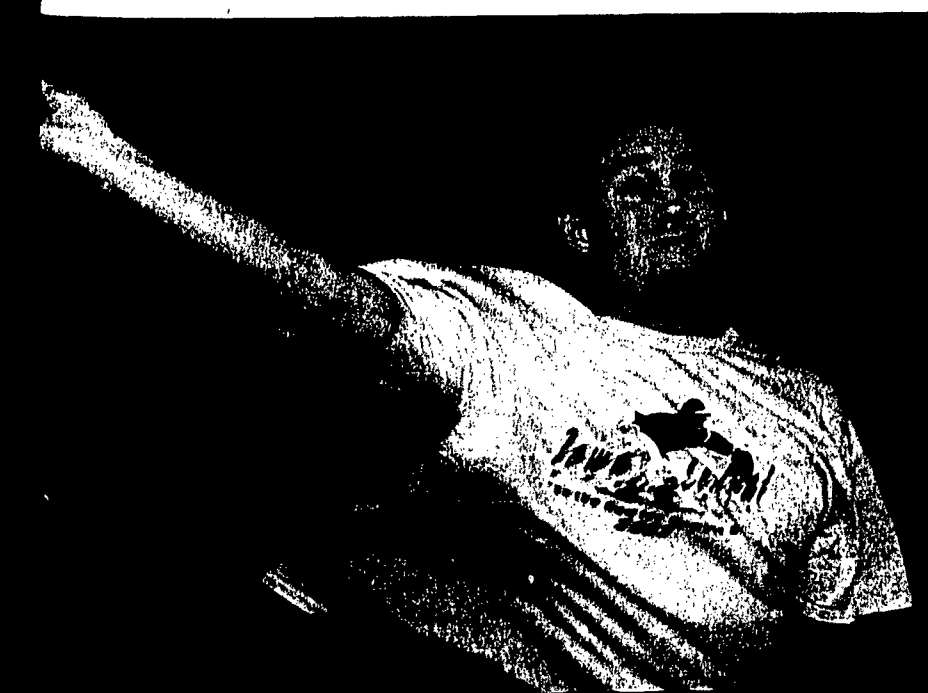
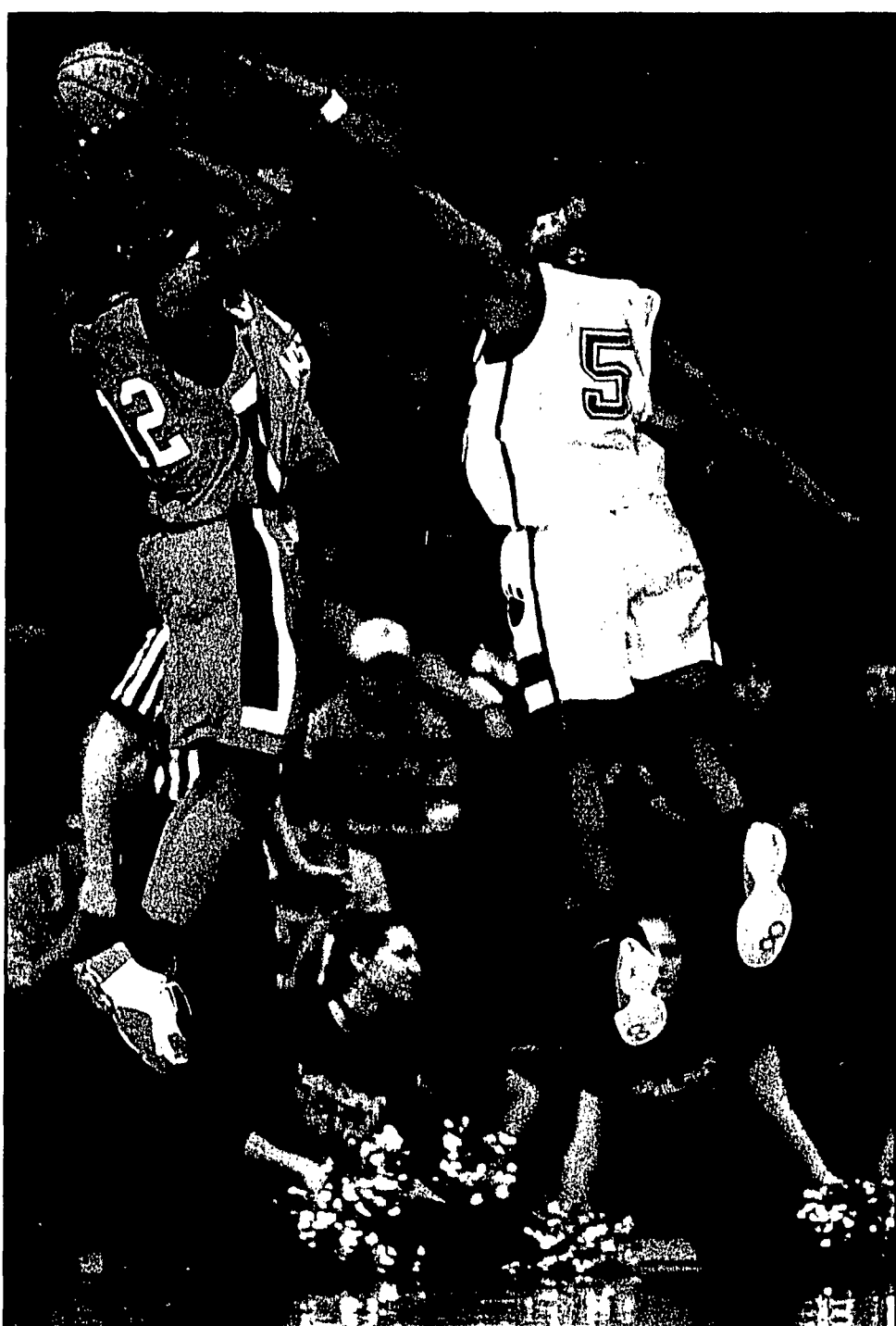


PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Jeremy Tapps practices underneath Bearcat Arena Tuesday. Tapps and the Bearcats will travel to Northeastern Oklahoma for their season opener Saturday and Sunday.

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S A RIDE TO THE STORE OR SOMETHING ELSE, THE PLAYERS AND COACHES HAVE ALWAYS GIVEN ME HELP AND SUPPORT.

Addae Houston
On his time at Northwest



Houston's Numbers

5 Addae's jersey number. Last season the same jersey was worn by All-American Kelvin Parker.

11 The amount of points Addae has scored per game while at Northwest.

24 The amount of points Addae scored in the NJCAA Championship game last March.

26 The amount of minutes Addae averages per game this season.

85 Addae's free-throw shooting percentage this season.

Addae Houston contests a shot earlier in the season against Central Missouri State. Houston has played a key role for the Bearcats since arriving at Northwest and since the injury to point guard Sky Wilson.

PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

A Landing Place

BY BRENDAN KELLY
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Basketball is a game in which sometimes the outcome is uncertain until the very end of the game. Life can sometimes be that way too.

Sometimes in life we don't end up where we thought we were going. Sometimes we end up someplace better. Nobody knows that better than Bearcat guard Addae Houston.

Houston might be a junior in the classroom, but his life experience and outlook on the world set him apart from your average student-athlete.

"When I first got out of high school I was only being scouted by one school to play basketball and it was a Division III school in Kentucky," Houston said. "So, I went to Langston University in Oklahoma on a long jump track scholarship, but that didn't work out, so I transferred to a community college in Texas to play basketball."

That wouldn't work out for Houston either and he eventually transferred once again, this time to Eastfield Community College in Texas. He would play for two seasons under coach Chris Johnson, a former player and assistant coach at Northwest.

Houston would have a decent first season at Eastfield and a great sophomore season, prompting Northwest to recruit him.

What Houston saw on his recruiting trip to Northwest would be the same thing that has made him happy to stay in Maryville.

"I came to Northwest because it had a family-type feeling to it," Houston said. "It has stayed that way since I got here; it doesn't matter if it's a ride to the store or something else, the players and coaches have always given me help and support."

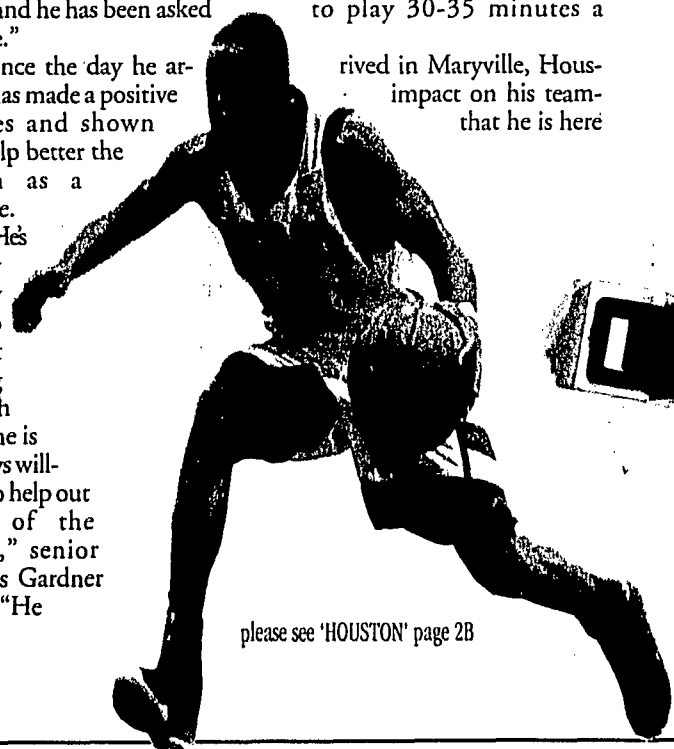
When Houston arrived at Northwest he sat out the first semester and was not allowed to practice with the team. The plan was to allow Houston to gradually work his way into the rhythm

of things, but with injuries to Sky Wilson and Andy Peterson, Houston was thrown straight into the mix and asked to take leadership of the team.

"His teammates have accepted him well; he did his work on his own by getting his lifts in and getting in the gym and working on his shooting," coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "He has reacted well to a tough situation and shown that he is a good leader. When Sky went down with the injury he was thrown straight into the mix and he has been asked to play 30-35 minutes a game."

Since the day he arrived in Maryville, Houston has made a positive impact on his team-mates and shown that he is here to help better the team as a whole.

"He's really easy to get along with and he is always willing to help out any of the guys," senior Travis Gardner said. "He



please see 'HOUSTON' page 2B

Head coach struggles to find weakness in squad

BY JEROME BOETTCHER
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Despite the snow on the ground and the below freezing temperatures, baseball is underway.

The Northwest baseball team travels to Tahlequah, Okla. this weekend for their first games of the season. The Bearcats will face off against Northeastern Oklahoma after spending most of the semester practicing inside Bearcat Arena.

"We're kind of used to this every year, we kind of go through this and we get guys as close as we possibly can in the gym," head coach Darin Loe said. "We might be a little sluggish as far as seeing live pitching outdoors and those true hops off the grass in the dirt. But I think our guys are going to be able to handle that type of situation."

The Bearcats are coming off a season in which they finished third in the conference with a 12-11 record and second in the conference tournament. They finished 34-23 on

the year, their second-winningest season in 15 years.

The team is coming off what Loe called a rebuilding year and will bring in 11 seniors this season. He thinks the experience some of the underclassmen got last year will carry over to this season and help the team out.

"Getting some time under their belt last year, I think coming into this year our strength this year is going to be the experience that we have on the field," Loe said.

"That's probably our biggest difference. We don't have turnovers as far as positions. We had to plug in a few guys here and there. But for the most part it's still the same core of guys that we finished up with last year."

The team will play three games this weekend in which they will test three of their starting pitchers. Senior Brett Bogner will start the first game, followed by juniors Alex Budden and Matt Coons.

"Those three pitchers we expect big outings from, but at least good starts out of

(them)," Loe said. "Hopefully we can get to the bullpen a little bit later in the game with those three guys."

After the Oklahoma trip, the Bearcats will travel to University of Central Arkansas and then to Savannah, Ga. to compete in the Savannah Invitational. Loe doesn't mind going on the road, he thinks just being outside will be good for his team.

"The biggest thing is just getting outside and playing," he said. "Just coming out and growing as a team, we just haven't seen this team ever put together. We inner-squad all fall so we've played against each other, but we've never put a true lineup together."

According to Loe, he can't find any weaknesses in his team at this point.

"Every year I kind of try to ask myself that kind of question and try to find a weakness, and honestly right now I can't find one," he said. "I think we're solid pitching. I think we are solid offensively, I think we are solid defensively... If something should arise, I think we should be able to handle it."



PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Patrick Sasser hurdles during practice Tuesday at Bearcat Arena. The team will compete Friday in Lincoln, Neb. at the Prairie Wolf Invitational.

RUNNERS: Women perform well at Panther Classic, now head to Lincoln

CONTINUED from 1B

"There is definitely a jump in consistency," Carlson said. "These (Division I athletes) can jump like that (Division I caliber) on any given day," Carlson said.

Carlson performed well in spite of the fact that her adversaries were Division I athletes. She placed third in the high jump with a jump of 5'5". Even though his team competed against Division I athletes, Lorek does not consider that to be of much importance.

"We want our people to not even recognize that... We can compete against Division I teams," Lorek said. "There's nothing mysterious about that. It's all about how hard you play, how focused you are, and there shouldn't be a difference."

Along with the women's team, the men's team anticipates the arrival of

the Prairie Wolf Invitational in Lincoln, Neb., Friday.

"This is a very competitive group," men's coach Richard Alsop said. "We're seeing that every time we compete, we've been through a few meets now and almost without exception each one has improved."

If that trend continues Alsop believes the team's misleading fifth place conference standing will change.

"I don't think will finish fifth in the conference, but we'll see," he said. "Only time will tell."

Alsop attributes the teams' fifth place standing to the strength of the MIAA conference.

"In the national power rankings we're number 10 in the nation," Alsop said. "However, if we were to score the conference championship meet based on performances, right now we'd be fifth."

Success runs in the family for sprinter

BY SETH WOODERSON
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Two-sport star E. J. Falkner excels in many attributes conducive to any northwest athlete. He can run, jump and catch.

However, E. J. is special, not only is he contending for a starting receiver position, he is also the fastest person (in 400 meters) to ever don the forest green and white.

It's no big surprise really; athleticism just seems to run in the family.

Fred Falkner, E. J.'s father, was a sprinter and standout track athlete at Doane College in Crete, Neb. While at Doane Fred was a member of the 1978 record-breaking distance medley team. The record still stands today. That same year, the Doane Tigers took third in team points at the NAIA national meet.

A standout member of both the football and track and field teams, E.J. was recruited jointly by both head track and field coach Richard Alsop and head football coach Mel Tjeerdsma.

"I followed E. J.'s times as a junior because he'd run almost 49 (seconds) flat four or five times," Alsop said, "Mel came to me and said 'Do you have any interest in E.J.' and I said yes, well let's put our efforts together."

It was this joint effort that swayed E. J. away from such Division I schools as Texas Christian, Nebraska, Wyoming and even football powerhouse Miami, and to Northwest.

"(E. J.) has good genes, whenever I first came (to Northwest) his dad

was a senior at Doane College and (he) was a very, very good sprinter" Alsop said.

Fred was a major part of E. J.'s training, as fathers often are.

"My dad is one of the main reasons for my success now," E. J. said. "He was always giving me little pointers showing me articles on Carl Lewis, Michael Johnson, just a lot of great, world-class runners."

E. J. said that his father would work with him at a very tender age.

"He was always working on getting my form down (for when) I got older 'cause speed you can't teach," E.J. said.

All of this work paid off as E. J. has put up some very impressive numbers as a freshman, including



FALKNER

three all-conference indoor track honors as well as three all-conference outdoor selections one of them a place finish. Falkner also put down the number 13 spot in the nation among 400-meter runners, to mention several state high school track honors.

"I think the thing that puts (E.J.) above a lot of other athletes is that is very biomechanically smooth and sound and that is a huge attribute," sprint coach Scott Lorek said.

E. J. hopes to be named an American this season as a runner, also looks forward to next year's football season where he will be a top tender for a starting receiver position. He hopes to put up the kinds of numbers in football that he has in track.

"We expect (E. J.), over the next three years, to be a very essential part of our receiving corps," Tjeerdsma said.

HOUSTON: Northwest point guard has come a long way to play with 'Cats

CONTINUED from 1B

keeps a great feel in the locker room, you can just sense in him that he doesn't want to let his teammates down."

The way Houston approaches the game and life has a lot to do with something that Johnson told him at Eastfield Community College.

"Coach Johnson used to say to play every day like it's your last, because you never know when your last day will be," Houston said. "That made me want to work hard and take advantage of my time playing basketball."

While coaches have helped Houston on the court, his family has been the one thing that keeps him going and chasing his dream of playing basketball.

"My mom and dad have both taught me so much," he said. "They have taught me lessons outside of basketball that I have been able to use on and off the court."

There was a period of time when Houston's future was unsure. After he left Langston Houston sat out an entire year and did not know what he would do next, but it was during this time period that his oldest brother challenged him to pursue his dream.

"At a time when I wasn't playing everyday he told me that if I really wanted to play, I would be practicing everyday," Houston said. "He challenged me to get out there and do what I really

wanted to do."

Over time, Houston has seen his dreams and priorities change.

"After leaving Oklahoma and sitting out for a year I got back into school, and I was totally focused on basketball," Houston said. "I went to a try-out and talked to the coach. He told me that they would have to redshirt me because they didn't have any scholarships left. I talked to the coach over the summer a few times just to make sure that things were going as planned, but when summer was over and I ran into the coach, he acted like he didn't know who I was."

"That made me wake up. It made me see that maybe basketball wasn't for me. I still worked out, but I started to put education first, over basketball, and once I did that things started to work out. I went to Eastfield and my play there led to me coming here."

Houston's goal is to earn his degree in secondary education in social studies and to continue to be involved in basketball.

"If I'm not playing anymore I would like to coach," Houston said. "I've talked to some old coaches and they've told me that when I graduate there is a job waiting for me."

As for his past, Houston says that if given the chance he would not do anything differently.

"If I would have done things differently, I might not be where I am at now," Houston said. "To go through what I

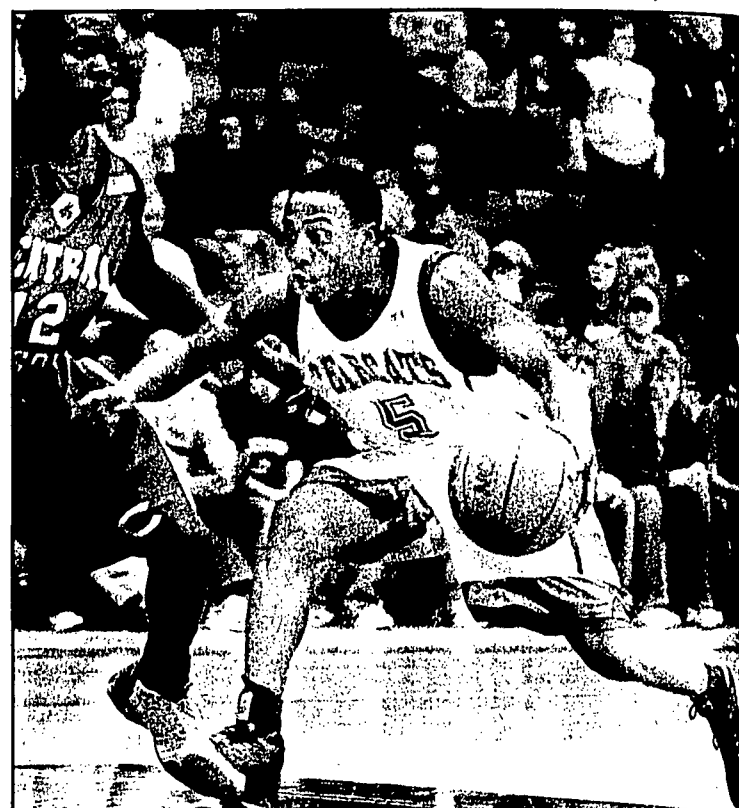


PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN
Addae Houston drives to the basket against Central Missouri State last Wednesday night. Houston currently starts for the Bearcats and is picking up for the injured Sky Wilson. He is averaging 10.9 points per game.

did, makes it feel that much better to be at the point I am now; I feel like I've really accomplished something."

Houston really has accomplished something. He overcame adversity and self doubt and he changed the way that

he looked at the world. In the end, he got exactly what he wanted, a chance to play the game he loves. When asked if there was anything he wanted to say, Houston just laughed and said: "I'm just happy to be where I am."

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Northwest Ford - Lincoln Mercury's Spotlight Players

Sophomore Meghan Blay sunk two key free throws down the stretch against Truman State to help the team win 62-59.

Freshman Joel Osborn paved the way for the 'Cats with 19 points as they beat Emp State 76-71.

Meghan Blay Joel Osborn

www.northwestwheels.com

Girls stomp Cardinals, break long losing streak

HAUNDA FRENCH
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

riding a seven-game losing streak, Maryville got their much-needed victory Saturday against the Cardinale Cardinals defeating them 50-29.

Coach Adam Willard hoped the win would serve as a confidence booster for the Spoofhounds.

"It was really big," Willard said. "We felt like we've been playing re-well and that the win justified it. We've been shooting the ball and our defense really helped it."

elli Dawson and Kim Wolfer for the 'Hounds, Dawson with 17 points and Wolfer with 10 points. The 'Hounds game against Chillicothe was postponed due to weather and was moved from Friday to Saturday night. Yet, Willard doesn't feel this delay will hurt but rather help the Spoofhounds.

"We've had a lot of sickness and injuries," Willard said. "This break actually help us."

Before hosting Chillicothe, the Spoofhounds will travel to No. 1 Benton Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. Just a day and a half weeks ago, the Cardinals came to Maryville and earned a 34-win; however, Willard feels the team is prepared for a rematch. "We've been working on things," Willard said. "They're really quick and fast. Hopefully we can handle the press and execute better." Maryville will venture to Benton Saturday night with a 9-9 record and play the rescheduled game against Chillicothe Saturday night.

Class 4 Basketball Rankings

CLASS 4
St. Joseph Benton 19-1
Fredricktown 18-2
Marshallfield 20-3
Lee's Summit West 16-4
KC Lincoln Prep 16-4
St. Joseph Lafayette 15-5
Republic 18-5
Dexter 19-4
Ozark 16-7
McDonald County 17-4

TEAMS IN BOLD INDICATE
MEC TEAMS

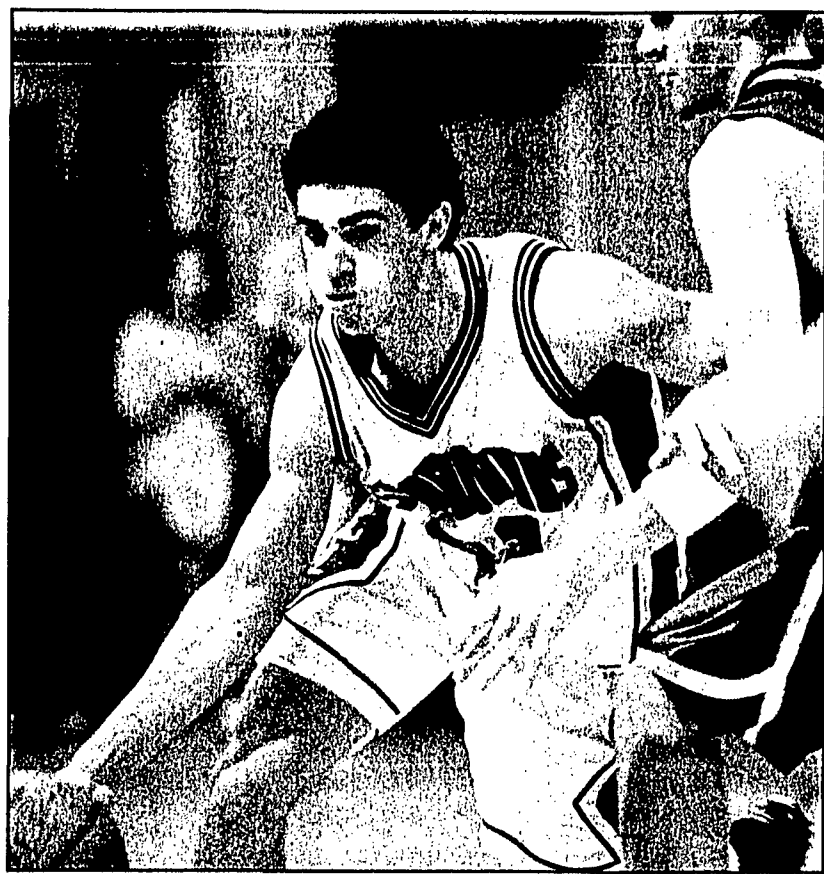


PHOTO BY ADAM WATSON/ NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN
Maryville's Syd Brisbane moves around a Smithville defender Friday night. Brisbane scored 15 points as the Spoofhounds snapped their three-game losing streak.

'Hounds snap losing streak with win over Smithville

BY SETH HERROLD
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The Spoofhounds ended their three-game losing streak Friday night with a 50-39 win over Smithville.

The 'Hounds struggled to stop Smithville's 6'5" center Andrew Jones in the first half. Jones finished the game with 19 points. Offensively, the 'Hounds found scoring scarce, trailing 22-16 at the end of the first half.

"We had to make some adjustments at halftime helping out on Jones because he was pretty tough, so we altered our defense a little bit and got a different look so we could collapse on him more," Coach Mike Kuwitzky said. "We tried to stop Chris Marmet from scoring from the outside; he was pretty good too."

The 'Hounds came out on fire in the second half with a 6-0 run to tie the game. Thanks to point guard Syd Brisbane's hot shooting, the 'Hounds outscored Smithville 14-6 in the third quarter.

"I'm confident in my teammates and myself to shoot the ball," Brisbane said. "Due to my teammates getting me open, I was able to hit the big shots."

The 'Hounds continued to play

excellent basketball in the fourth quarter.

"We just started out in a new offense the second half," Brisbane said. "Everyone was setting screens and getting other people open, and we were able to hit the shots."

Both teams exchanged several free throws in the final five minutes. The 'Hounds outscored Smithville in the fourth quarter, 20-11, to clinch the game.

Josh Wilmes led the way for the 'Hounds with 18 points, while Brisbane pitched in 15 of his own.

"We didn't play very well in the first half," Wilmes said. "We just worked our offense in the second half and all the guards were hitting their shots, and it allowed me to get some open looks."

Coach Kuwitzky was especially impressed with Brisbane's performance down the stretch.

"Syd did a great job running the point, running the offense, hitting the big free throws; he did a great job," he said.

The win improves the 'Hounds record to 15-5, and 3-1 in the conference. The Spoofhounds are currently ranked as No. 8 in Class 3. They next play at home this Friday against the Benton Cardinals.

Seth Herrold can be contacted at (660)-562-1224 or at s254617@mail.nwmissouri.edu

Wrestlers blow out St. Pius; district challenge ahead

BY ZACK WARD
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Coach Drake and the Spoofhounds cruised through Thursday's matches on senior night. It was apparent that the team didn't get wrapped up in senior night and focused on the dual.

The 'Hounds celebrated St. Pius X on Thursday to win their fourth dual in a row. They got off to a bad start, however, as Zack Steins dropped the 103-pound weight match.

Senior Jason Tuggle pinned Pius' Zach Slater in the third period of the 112-pound weight match to swing the momentum back in the 'Hounds favor.

Although Tuggle was focused on the match, he said he would miss wrestling here in Maryville.

"I'm going to miss wrestling," Tuggle said. "It's the last home dual so it means a lot to me."

The 'Hounds would dominate the rest of the night as they won the next five weight classes, highlighted by Mike Swinford's pin of Pius' Nick Conforti with only nine seconds passed in the first period.

After the 'Hounds' Tanner Archer dropped his 140-

pound weight match, the 'Hounds won five of the last seven matches to win the dual by a score of 58-20. It was a strong performance as the 'Hounds head into districts.

"Right now we're on track of what we need to be doing this time of year," Drake said. "We've really been talking about staying focused, being aggressive, being intense and this week has definitely been all of that."

The 'Hounds will now go to Cameron for district competition next Saturday. Several 'Hounds wrestlers will come into districts with a good chance to place and go to state. Skyler Vandiver (26-1) and Cody Gillenwater will lead the way, but Dan Blair, Colby Chesnut and Jason Tuggle also will have a chance to place.

"This is the best year I've ever had," Tuggle said. "I think I have a good shot at going to state."

Going into districts, the team hopes to come through with a good performance. Drake and the wrestlers are upbeat about their chances of bringing home a title.

"We're in a really tough district," Tuggle said. "There's a lot of good teams, but we could place up there pretty high."

"WE'VE REALLY BEEN TALKING ABOUT STAYING AGGRESSIVE, BEING INTENSE AND THIS WEEK HAS DEFINITELY BEEN ALL OF THAT."

-Joe Drake
Maryville Wrestling Coach

Eagles have easier road back to Super Bowl than defending champion Patriots

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. One of the most impressive aspects of the Patriots' third Super Bowl title in four years is the string of teams they beat in the postseason.

New England defeated the Colts and Steelers in the AFC playoffs, then edged the Eagles in the NFL title game. Those four teams were the best in football this season, and all should be formidable again come September.

Several other AFC teams—the Chargers, Jets, Ravens, possibly the Bills, Chiefs and Jaguars—could also provide a roadblock for the champions next season.

Philadelphia faces a far easier path in the NFC in its bid to get back to the big game. Other than the Eagles, who is a contender to meet the AFC champion in Detroit next February?

Perhaps Atlanta, although the Eagles manhandled the Falcons in the NFC title game and are cons ahead of them in talent, organization and experience.

A healthy Carolina might be a factor, but these Eagles match up better

than they did against the Panthers in their January '04 playoff meeting.

Anybody else? Some team always comes out of nowhere to contend, but to think any NFC club is ready to knock off the Eagles—especially after they finally scaled their biggest hurdle by getting into the Super Bowl—doesn't make much sense right now.

"We'll be back," All-Pro receiver Terrell Owens said. "We have more to do."

And they have been through the Super Bowl crucible.

"I think that the positive you get out of it is that the guys got a taste of it," coach Andy Reid said, "and I'm sure they will want to come back."

Of course they want to come back, and they probably want another shot at the Patriots. The Eagles don't have any salary cap woes and most of their free agents are expendable. Donovan McNabb, Brian Westbrook, Jevon Kearse, Lito Sheppard and Michael Lewis are only approaching their primes. Older veterans Owens, Brian Dawkins, Jeremiah Trotter and David Akers are coming off superb seasons.

New England hardly is falling apart,

either. While the Patriots don't have as much salary cap space as the Eagles, they aren't hard against the spending ceiling. Their biggest questions are how well they can replace coordinators Romeo Crennel, now Cleveland's head coach, and Charlie Weiss, now at Notre Dame.

Still, Belichick is a master not only of game-planning but of player procurement. The Patriots have a model for their players: versatile, intelligent, selfless. Belichick and personnel director Scott Pioli find the right guys for their system, and that system produces championships.

"Every time we play, it's a total effort from everyone," said receiver Deion Branch, the Super Bowl MVP with 11 catches for 133 yards. "It's a total organizational effort from the top down."

Unquestionably, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, San Diego, the Jets and Baltimore all must get better to compete with the New England dynasty. But none of them need to make the quantum leap required of an NFC team to overtake Philly.

So that makes the Eagles the favorite for Super Bowl '06?

Not quite. Not as long as Belichick, Brady and the Patriots are still around.

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A different way to spend Monday

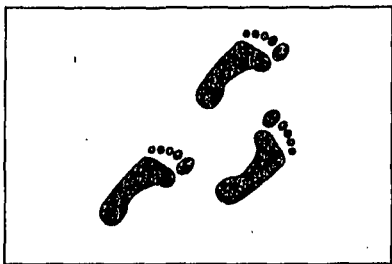
And now for something we hope you'll find really cliché a Valentine's Day rant!!!

So here's a question: do you think Rocky and Bullwinkle had something extra going on the side? I'm not trying to insinuate anything; I'm just curious. How come we never saw them on dates? And didn't Bullwinkle seem a little, I don't know—light in the loafers? I mean, I know he wasn't literally wearing loafers, but if he had I think they would've been pretty light. Maybe it's just my imagination.

I'm about to do something completely new and never before done! I'm going to write about how much I hate Valentine's Day. Because nobody's ever done that before, have they? Ok, so maybe they have done it before—too much in fact. So maybe I really couldn't think of anything original to write about—but then again I never do—and deadline was in a half hour, so I had to hustle to get this chunk of crap churned out.

I hope I get one of those enormous 50-lb. Hershey bars for Valentine's Day. Then I can tie it around my ankles and have something to keep me from floating back to the top of Mozingo Lake.

You'll know me on Valentine's Day; I'll be the guy chucking giant Hershey Kisses off the overpass into oncoming traffic.



THE STROLLER

Don't get me wrong, I'm not just one of those people who spew nothing but hatred for Valentine's Day because I have nobody to celebrate it with. I spew hatred for Valentine's Day because Cupid decided to shoot my mom with an arrow while she was with the pool boy. Cupid also shot my dad, but mom got to the pool boy before he did.

You'll know me; I'll be the guy at Movie Gallery saying, "Sorry, we're out of porn, but we do have fifty copies of *The Little Mermaid* left."

I think it would be funny to just walk up to a girl in the Union while she's eating lunch and ask her if she'll be my valentine. Then when she turns me down, I'll say, "Well then, I guess you won't be wanting this antidote after all, will you?"

If you pay a girl to send you a Valentine's Day card, is that prostit-

tion?

Here's something you probably didn't know about Valentine's Day. It originated from the Saint Valentine, who became famous for marrying people against the wishes of Caesar, the infamous salad baron of the Roman Empire. Funny thing, see back then Caesar was against men marrying women because he thought it would destroy families. Valentine was for hetero-rights, so he married them in private. Ironically, this illegalization of different-sex marriages was what ultimately ended the Roman Empire when they couldn't reproduce.

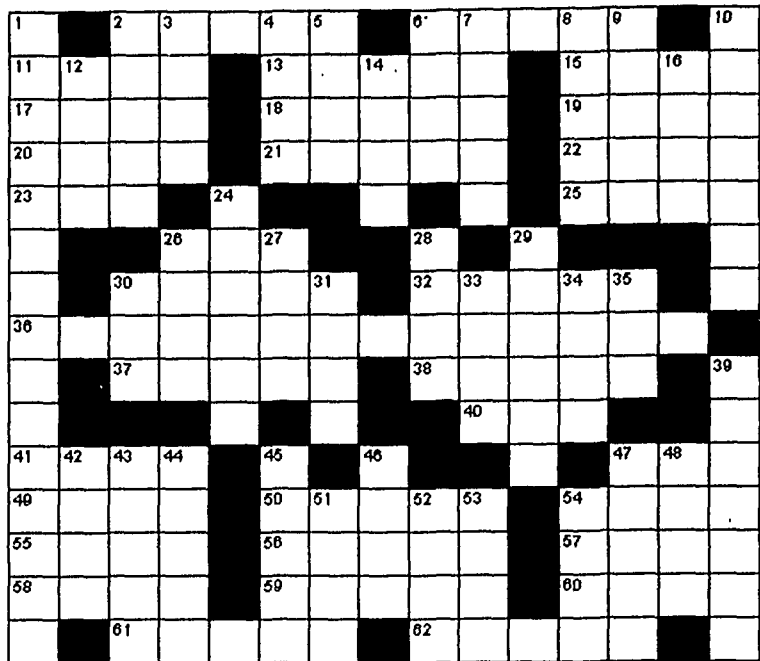
You'll know me; I'll be the guy at the bar who is drinking club soda and weeping quietly to himself while "I Think We're Alone Now" plays on the jukebox.

I want to start a business that makes boxes of candy hearts to give to single people. But instead of saying things like "Hot 4 U" or "Kiss Me," they'll say things like "You're Nice" and "Only a Friend."

You'll know me; I'll be the guy loading baby sea turtles into a pitching machine—not because I don't like Valentine's Day, but because the crack of the bat makes me feel like Barry Bonds.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



Across
2. Compass point
6. Having the same score
11. Unit of length
13. Town administrative officer
15. Acquire through merit
17. Chamber
18. Command
19. Agitate
20. Drinking vessels
21. Performance
22. Filled tortilla
23. Exploit

25. Frozen water vapor
26. British Expeditionary Force
30. Pertaining to sound reproduction
32. Consumers forces
37. Loincloth worn by Hindu men
38. Christian writings
40. Falsehood
41. Fruit
47. Social Security Board
49. Ripped
50. Diminish

Down
1. Limitation
2. Extent
3. Units of resistance
4. Stepped
5. Illustrious warrior
6. Level

7. Margin
8. Bird homes
9. The devil
10. Quiet
12. Intellect
14. Prepare for publication
16. Act allowing crime victims to sue criminals for damages
24. Lawn grass
26. Low plant with many branches
27. Decree
28. Incandescent lamp
29. Small burrowing rodent
30. Brides
31. Off-Broadway theater award
33. Travel on water
34. Vex
35. Perceive with the eyes
39. Sets within a set
42. Device for securing
43. Relating to urea
44. Jason's wife (Myth)
45. Lanterns
46. Mafia boss
47. Dish of raw vegetables
48. Astound
51. Drill a hole
52. Portable shelter
53. Nervously irritable
54. Barbarous person

See answers below.

On the Edge

Dreams:
■ During the Roman Era, some dreams were submitted to the Senate for analysis and interpretation.
■ According to Nietzsche, "In the ages of the rude beginning of culture, man believed that he was discovering a second real world in dream, and here is the origin of all metaphysics."
■ First and foremost in dream theory is Sigmund Freud. Falling into the psychological camp, Dr. Freud's theories are based on the idea of repressed longing—the desires that aren't able to express in a social setting.
■ When we sleep, we go through five sleep stages. The first stage is a very light sleep from which it is easy to wake up. The second stage moves into a slightly deeper sleep, and stages three and four represent our deepest sleep.

'Hide and Seek' need not be found

BY ASHLEY BAILEY
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Leading as the No. 1 movie in America" is *Hide and Seek*. After paying \$6.75 to see the film, I am left wondering, why?

John Polson's further attempt at directing *Hide and Seek* is another in the tradition of excellent actors in a poor attempt at horror. Polson's most successful film, *Swimfan*, should be a sign of what misery is to come before even reaching the movie theater.

Robert DeNiro, one of my all time favorite actors, famous for such classic films as *The Godfather*, *Goodfellas* and *The Untouchables*, left much to be desired as his loose portrayal of a troubled

psychologist.

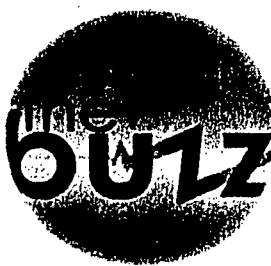
Beginning in New York City, David Callaway (DeNiro) and his seemingly happy family's world is turned upside down with the discovery of his wife's suicide in the bathtub of their home. Her death leaves him to care for his increasingly unstable daughter, Emily (Dakota Fanning). In an attempt to bring her back to a normal state David moves to a new home in upstate New York. Emily closes herself off from the world and becomes a darker character due to a lack of companionship and a longing for her mother. In an attempt to fill the void she develops a relationship with "Charlie," her imaginary friend. Then the movie really begins, as "Charlie" becomes increasingly hostile and violent. David searches for justification.

to his daughter's inconceivable actions and a means to get through to the child he so much adores. Emily stands by the fact that the horrifying instances all the result of Charlie's overwhelming hatred of David. David is left with the question of what it is that he seeks, is his daughter to blame? Is he looking for a real person? The conclusion leaves us with a twist with the discovery of who is at fault.

The film is shaky and reaching for a substantial plot. The movie itself is extremely predictable, and is found to be another addition to the series of horror flops to grip the film industry.

A piece of advice, dear moviegoers: if you have seen *Secret Window*, you have seen *Hide and Seek*. Save your money and go rent something.

MUSIC, MOVIES,



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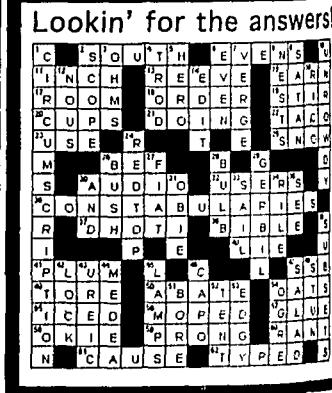
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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

Austin Meyer scored 14 points, added 8 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals as he led Northwest to victory.



Laura Friedrich compiled 25 points, 9 rebounds and 6 assists as the Lady Bearcats were defeated by Emporia State, 78-67, Saturday.



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